

DIDSBURY REVIEW

61¢ plus GST



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2008

www.didsburyreview.ca

Volume 21 Issue 53

Decrease in development permits leads to a normal cycle Over \$14 million worth of construction approved in 2008

BY SABEEN AHMAD
 Didsbury Review

As 2008 comes to an end Didsbury's development activity for the year shows a decrease in the number of permits and value on construction that were issued for the year.

Planning and development officer Robert Wigg, does not see this as something that was unexpected.

"I don't think this should surprise anybody that we are down from the last couple of years," he says regarding the 55 permits that were issued for housing as opposed to the 71 from last year.

"In the previous years where there was great credit available and there wasn't this nervousness about spending (the numbers were higher)."

Wigg added that when speaking to a developer recently they were even seeing a lot more cautiousness in developing right now.

Looking at just the past year versus just one year ago, may not give a concise picture.

"Often, I think it's very difficult to look at a one year snapshot...I think it's more logical to look at, say, two or three years."

In 2006 the number of housing permits issued was 82. In 2007 the number came down to 71.

"I think now what you're seeing is a bit more realistic in nature. More of the building is for rental units or owners that are expecting to move in right away," Wigg explained. (It's) brought things back to a normal cycle."

Wigg said that with the downturn of the economy and credit being a little harder to attain these days, people may be much more nervous in spending or investing in development.

"(But) in the big scheme of things, I think we're normal."

The cold weather that's come in hasn't been very helpful with development either. "(There's) no questions about the slowdown...the fall is often a busy time for us...the cold snap has stalled some development."

The total construction value for 2008 slipped to \$14.3 million from 2007's \$16.4 million. Wigg said that permits

for 2009 wouldn't begin being issued until January 1 but added that even though this year permits were issued, some of the development could take a year to begin.

"I know we've got a couple new industrial buildings underway...there could be permit requests that come in last minute too."

With regards to the commercial, industrial, institutional or other permits—the numbers showed to be slightly higher than last year with a total of 171 being issued this year. Last year's total showed 164. Wigg explained that this could be because of the 'other' category saying that permits are issued for garages or decks that are built as well as changes of use to businesses.

"There were a lot of changes in some way in the commercial businesses last year so that may be why the number is higher."

He explained that when a business changes from mercantile to a restaurant, from a salon to a massage parlour or any type of change, permits need to be issued for those as well.



POISED FOR SUCCESS - Mayor Brian Wittal stands on a hill overlooking the growing town of Didsbury which saw about \$14 million worth of construction projects approved within its boundaries in 2008. The mayor talks about the year that was and what's ahead in 2009 on page 3.

Carla Victor/Didsbury Review

OPEN 9-7 ON DECEMBER 31			CLOSED JANUARY 1			
CO-OP Olds Co-op New Hours: 9-9 Every Day	MARKET PLACE APPLE PIE 660 g \$2.99 ea.	KRAFT CHEESE 907 g, Asst. Varieties First Two \$9.99 ea.	CHRISTIES SNACK CRACKERS 100-454 g box, asst. varieties 3\$6.00 for	BROCCOLI CROWNS \$2.18 kg 99¢ lb.	MOTT'S CLAMATO JUICE 1.89 L 3\$8.97 for + deposit & levy	JUMBO SHRIMP RINGS 16-19 count with sauce \$6.99 ea.

Planner plots new life course in 2009

Robert Wigg announces retirement

Almost 15 years to the date of starting with the Town of Didsbury the manager of the planning and development department will say goodbye.

Robert Wigg began his career as a Town of Didsbury employee on April 1, 1994, working as the development/ planning/ bylaw officer for the municipality. On March 31, 2009, Wigg will enter into retirement after working for 15 years "within the same capacity as when I was hired, but with increased demand and an increased focus on planning and development."

Wigg's decision to retire has been in the works for some time now. He and his wife Pauline anticipate "looking at different opportunities that we've thought about for a long time, and we want to spend more time doing the things we've wanted to do for a long time."

Wigg says that the increased demand for planning and development within Didsbury over the past 15 years has been exciting and fulfilling.

He explains that when he began his position in 1994, the Town of Didsbury saw the development of up to 15 houses per year and there was no inventory of lots available for further development.

Now, in 2008, the town sees 50 to 60 home starts per year, with significant ongoing development proposals for future growth.

"As the Town of Didsbury moves into the future, I see it as a positive move for future planning," Wigg says. "Didsbury is poised to be a very successful community. Council and staff are working hard at trying to plan a sustainable community where growth is managed in a way that benefits all residents."

"I'm also proud to know that I've helped a lot of people over the years with building and development issues."

ROBERT WIGG
Town of Didsbury

Reflecting on his career with the Town of Didsbury, Wigg says he is most proud of being involved with several projects over the years, including all the development within Didsbury, the Downtown Central Core Heritage Plan, the industrial subdivision, and the new subdivisions that are currently in the works.

"I'm also proud to know that I've helped a lot of

people over the years with building and development issues."

What will he miss?

"The people ... the staff, are what I will miss the most. Also I'll miss the people within the development industry that I have worked with. There are a lot of class people out there whom I have a lot of respect for," said Wigg.

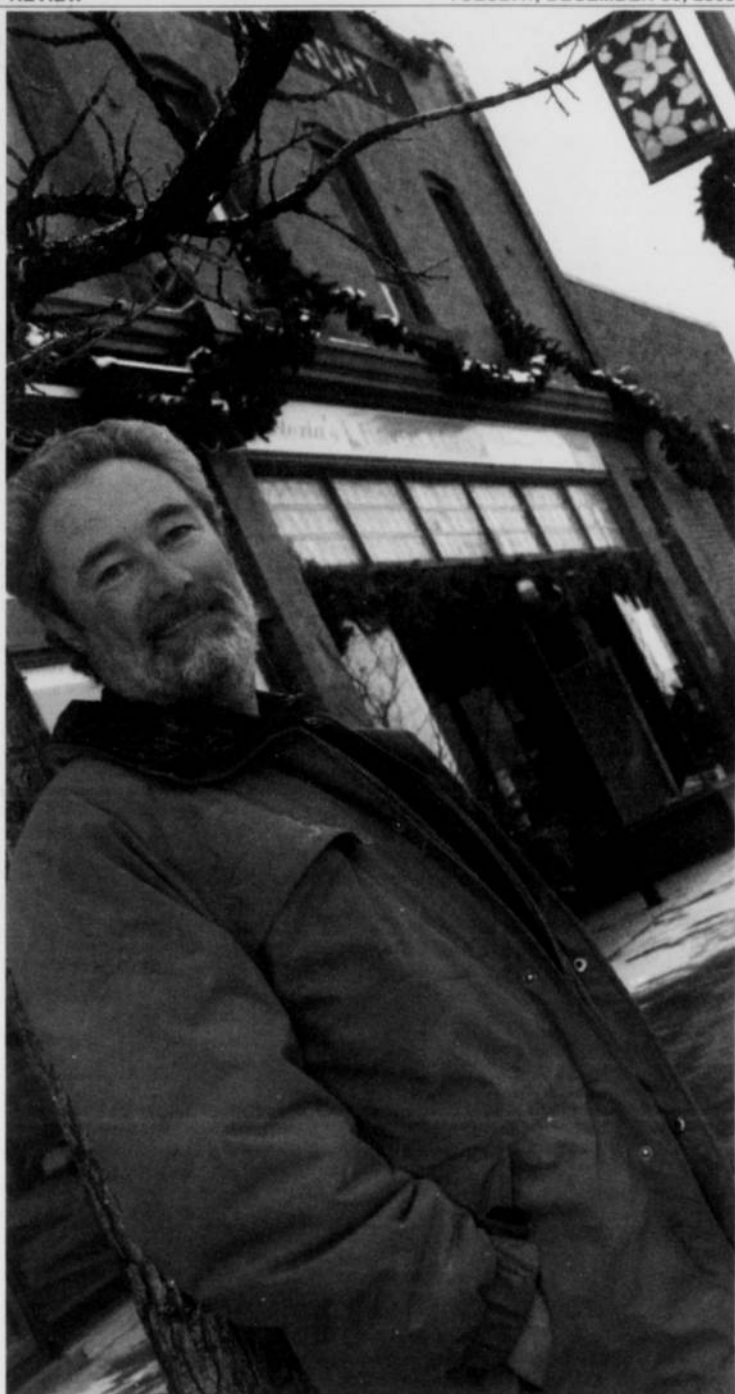
"I really have enjoyed working for the Town of Didsbury. It's been challenging. It's had its frustrations and its highs and lows. But, I've really enjoyed working with councils, mayors and staff over the years. It has been an experience."

In a May 3, 1994 article in the Didsbury Review, upon starting his career with the Town of Didsbury, Wigg had commented, "Didsbury seems like a clean, friendly town, where the rural roots are still important values to live by." He continues to stand by this opinion today.

Council and staff of the Town of Didsbury wish Wigg the best as he moves into a new phase of his life, with many thanks for a job well done over the past 15 years.

Chief administrative officer Roy Brown commented that he has very much enjoyed working with Robert over the past four years.

"Robert is a man of integrity. We were able to discuss issues openly and frankly but we were always able to keep the issue in perspective. I have been privileged to have received his wisdom and his guidance and enjoy his sense of humour," said Brown.



SAYING GOODBYE - Town development department manager Robert Wigg is bidding adieu after more than a decade.

Carla Victor / Didsbury Review

Rosebud Community Hall
Annual General Meeting
Special Resolution Meeting
& Membership Renewal
January 22, 2009 @ 7:00 pm

Coffee's FREE!



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Come & Enjoy our daily lunch Monday to Friday.



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Church Directory

The REVIEW is pleased to provide this Church Directory as a community service

Anglican Church of Canada St. Cyprian's

2037 - 24th Ave. Didsbury - 335-4664
Rev. Candice Armstrong
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.
Mid-week service every third Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.
St. Cyprian's is a small, friendly Christian Community who welcomes newcomers.

Knox United Didsbury

1406 - 19th Avenue
Minister Nancy Nourse
Please join our church family for worship, 10 a.m. each Sunday.
Nursery Care available for infants and toddlers.
Sunday school provided for ages 3-17.
For information about mid-week programming for children, youth and adults please call 335-8373 or see our website at www.knox-united.com.

West Zion Mennonite Church

South of Didsbury to sign - West 1.5 miles
Pastor Trevor Kriaka, info - 337-2020
Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.
Nursery available during service.
EVERYONE WELCOME!

Berthel Mennonite Church

Didsbury, Alberta
5km S of the Didsbury Overpass,
8km E on Berthel Rd.
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service - 11 a.m.
Pastor: Elwin Garland
For more information ph. - 335-4451

Redeemer Lutheran

LUTHERAN CHURCH CANADA
1900 - 23 ST. • Rev. Robert Mohr
Church: 335-3161 / Res: 335-3056
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. • Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study Sunday - 9:30 a.m.
Holy Communion 1 & 3 Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Jr. & Sr. Youth, Women's & Seniors Ministry Group
Small Group Bible Study meetings throughout the week.

Mountain View Evangelical

Missionary Church
14 km East of Didsbury
Office: 335-4422
Morning Worship - 11 a.m. • Sunday School - 10 a.m.
For information concerning the weekly activities please call the Church Office.

St. Anthony's Catholic

2030 - 24 Ave. Didsbury
For more information please contact
Claude Baril - 335-3842
Catholic Women's League: Wendy MacKenzie 335-8507
Knight's of Columbus: Gary McNeil - 335-8611

Chinook Winds Christian Centre

1710 - 14th Street Didsbury
SUNDAY CELEBRATION - 10 a.m.
Prophetic Worship and Bible Teaching for all ages
• Nursery Services •
Ph/Fax - 335-3551 • Email - cwcc@airnet.com
Pastoral Team Richard & Beth Kope
SEE YOU AT THE CENTRE!

Zion Evangelical Missionary Church

Corner Hwy. 582 & 20th Ave. Phone: 335-3629
Website: www.zemc.org
Mike Morgan, Senior Pastor
Colin Creighton, Youth Pastor
Christine Little, Children's Ministries Director
Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m.
Regular Sunday Service 10:45 a.m.
with ZionKids Worship for up to Grade 6

SEE YOU IN CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

Mayor optimistic for Didsbury in 2009

BY SABEEN AHMAD
Didsbury Review

Didsbury's mayor is optimistic of what's to come for the town in 2009, pinning a lot on the anticipated annexation of land into its boundaries from Mountain View County that will nearly double its land base.

In December, Brian Wittal looked back on the past year of council's objectives and highlighted a number of key areas.

"First thing was annexation—and trying to get that finalized and it's been a year from when we had our appeal hearing. I had contact with the minister's office...and it will be going for approval in the first couple of weeks of January. So the completed and signed paperwork will be back to us and finalized then."

The mayor believes that this annexation will create a busy 2009 for Didsbury as a number of development projects are "ready to roll" when the affected land becomes part of the urban municipality.

Council has agreed that there needs to be a better balance between the municipal property taxes that the town's commercial, industrial and residential owners pay.

"One of the focuses was try to bring more new business opportunities to help that imbalance...I think 2009 is

going to be the year of the projects—residents are going to be able to see things happening."

Another area of council's focus was ensuring that the town's infrastructures and facilities were in "decent shape."

"We did improvements where we could."



MAYOR
BRIAN WITTAL

Memorial Park is a project Wittal feels confident about for 2009 as well.

"Finishing Memorial Park has been an ongoing thing since I came on council four or five years ago. This summer hopefully or this spring we'll see that everything should be pretty much complete. The plan is that this summer we'll have the official opening of Memorial Park."

Memorial Park, which will be located behind Krebs Veterinary Services, will have three baseball diamonds, a walking path and a stage with a cover.

"(It will be a) definite asset to the community as a sport, recreation, leisure area—I think it's an excellent opportunity for hosting events."

Overall, the town's development continued throughout 2008, albeit slower than 2007, says the mayor.

"I think everybody was positive until the last few months when things sort of sunk," he said referring to the downturn of the economy.

"But I am optimistic...talking with developers they say 'yeah it's slow but

there's still activity.' After the new year people will come back with renewed confidence."

Wittal says there are already a number of properties in the proposed annexed area - about a quarter of a mile out on each side of the town - that have development proposed for them.

"I can see some of those things start to happen as well."

Having talked with some developers already, Wittal says he feels a "fair bit of optimism talking to them because you

know this slowdown is working in their favour. There's contractors that are looking for work and so the bids are a little more realistic and not near as expensive."

The annexation will be a turning point for the town, he said. Once development on projects begins the mayor says the spinoffs from the projects are going to be very positive.

"What we are doing is going to bring benefit to the community (for the) long term."

Sled dog race warm up planned

About 90 volunteers are gearing up for the fourth annual edition of the Rosebud Run Sled dog Classic sled dog sprint races with a Warming Up event planned for January 1.

On New Year's Day, at 12:30 p.m. all volunteers have been invited to the race site for snacks and beverages.

The highlight of the Warming Up will be the first running of the trail courtesy of Dena, Rick and Rachel Wannamaker.

The Wannamakers will be putting four-dog and six-dog teams to the trail to test it for suitability and identifying problem areas so anything requiring attention can

be addressed prior to race days.

Scheduled for January 24 and 25, 2009, the annual race is expected to attract 60 to 70 competing teams.

The race trail, marked by fluorescent pink trail markers, winds through the Rosebud River Valley and cropland immediately east of Didsbury.

The early snows in relatively copious amounts have allowed for the early development of the race trail and a trail base that is not likely to go away before the race days.

- Smaldon

New Year's Eve

Family Skate

Pool Party

Join the family fun on New Year's Eve!

7:00-9:00 pm
Didsbury Memorial Complex
Free swimming and skating
All are welcome!
1702-21 Avenue, Didsbury
For more information, call 556-4042

sponsored by

Word of Life Church
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6th Annual
Didsbury Lion's
Christmas Tree
Chip-Off

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FOR TREES
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Didsbury, Alberta 403-336-8965

JANUARY 3RD, 2009 — NOON TO 3 P.M.

REMOVE all ornaments, tinsel and metal objects.
BRING a Food Bank Donation with your tree to the old bus barns by the town of Didsbury's Operational Service office and enjoy a hot chocolate.
Food can also be dropped off at Didsbury AG Foods.
For any questions please call Gerard at For Trees Company at 335-8965 or e-mail: trees@fortrees.ca

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234-0714 CALGARY DIRECT LINE

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Hurricane Sports Pub Carstairs NEW LISTING Well established business! Sale includes building, extra lot with patio, and business. Great main street location! \$399,800	1721 - 17 Street, Didsbury Beautiful College Green Villa Very spacious home, fully finished. Ready to move into 3 bedrooms, 3 bath, double garage \$314,900	#102, 1190 - 15 Ave. Didsbury Very well maintained mobile. Didsbury Mobile Home Park. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Ready to move into \$47,000	2150 - 22 Avenue, Didsbury A doll house with character! Great location, fabulous upgrades, 2+1 bedrooms, fireplace, claw tub, hardwood \$209,900
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NEW YEAR!

1117 - 23 Street, Didsbury Great Character home Detached Garage with loft. Tons of upgrades, 1+ Acres. Very unique, one of a kind home! \$499,900	Beiseker Acreage 9.46 acres - 1700+ sq ft 4 bedroom older farm house, double garage, several older outbuildings on a paved road. \$349,900	761 Stonehaven Drive, Carstairs Executive home close to golf course with bonus playroom & nice open floor plan. \$429,900	309 - Morris Place, Didsbury SPECTACULAR 5 bdrm, 3 bath home with AMAZING kitchen, fully developed basement & backyard retreat. \$385,000
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Fully serviced large lots in new Beiseker Subdivision starting at \$68,900. Call Dan or Chez.

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 Co-Owner / Associate

DAN PETERS
 Associate Broker

CHEZ PETERS
 Associate

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Outstanding Results.

Opinion

Letters to the editor The Grinch is alive and well

In the midst of all planning, preparing and special events that are a major part of the Christmas season, we all do our part to support the extra projects and campaigns to help families in need and less fortunate.

We count our blessings and know how lucky we are. We never take anything for granted. So we work hard, raise our kids and help them raise our grandchildren. We teach them to be caring and bullying will not be tolerated. Be nice to people and they will be nice to you!

Unfortunately, we just discovered that the Grinch is alive and well in Mountain View County and has left behind a calling card for rent increases of \$300 and over \$400 maybe even more – as of January 1.

Picture this scenario: You have been lucky enough to obtain a permanent position in the health-care field with 12-hour shifts. Because you do the best job you can and want to give back to the community, the result will be that you earn a little more – finally – to help you get ahead! Soon after that, on top of the rent increase, you receive a three-month eviction notice – from your own home – to find somewhere else to live and start over again. We wonder how many families in Mountain View County, including single-parent families, are now left in tears and wondering how they will cope.

How many of us could find an extra \$400 for rent or mortgage, with three weeks' notice?

We heard the QEII Highway was paved with gold, but not the small towns all along the way. Take a look now. How fast things can change and how fast people's lives can be shattered for trying so hard.

Who knew that if your teenage dependants take a part-time job, their income will be included in the household income also. What a great example to encourage our kids to earn some money for themselves and help out.

This is wrong and you can be sure they will remember – as we all will.

Don't judge a book by its cover. You have no idea what the story is.

Merry Christmas, everyone.

Jean H. Mason
Didsbury

Daisy Duke captured hearts across Canada

Once again, I am writing to show support for those standing up for the animal abuse case that occurred in Didsbury. I live in London, Ontario and the story about Daisy Duke was so prevalent here it was like the case had occurred in Ontario. I, myself, collected 500 names and submitted them to the petition task force that was collecting names against what happened. I hope the judge has enough sense to put this individual away for a few years to let him suffer as he did Daisy the dog. I hope the House of Commons will pass a stronger animal cruelty bill which will keep people like Haskett out of society for a long time.

Nicole Ronald
London, Ontario



SABEEN AHMAD

With Christmas come and gone the next big event many people are gearing up for is New Year's Eve.

Being back home, in Regina, for Christmas I found many people discussing what 2008 brought them. Looking back over the year it can be said it was full of trials and tribulations, happiness and celebration. Some lost loved ones while others welcomed new bundles of joy.

I can say this year has brought about many changes in my life. The obvious one would be that I moved from Saskatchewan to Alberta to begin a career I have dreamed of having for as long as I can remember. Along with that I have also gone through rough patches and found the happy ponds to jump in along the way. But let's face it—nothing in life is easy. The rough patches are what make you learn and grow. So although I may not have enjoyed the rough patches—and obviously, don't think I ever will enjoy the rough patches, it's made me stronger and helped me become more of who I am.

Aside from what this year brought me, this year brought many changes around the world. In next week's issue you will see a review of some big stories that happened in and

around Didsbury. But right now I would like to reflect on some big events that happened around the world.

The year started out with a housing boom. Anyone and everyone was buying and selling as housing prices were high and many were looking at it as an investment opportunity. As the year comes to an end the housing market has levelled off and has come to a slowdown.

In March, media mogul Conrad Black began serving his 78-month sentence on charges including fraud; obstruction of justice and money laundering...no amount of money could buy him out of this verdict.

We saw gas prices rise to well over \$1 a litre and then fall to well below a \$1 a litre...

Plastic bottles were a hot topic when Health Canada announced a ban on plastic bottles containing bisphenol A as it was harmful to a person's health. On the same track of health, Maple Leaf Foods suffered controversy in August with the Listeria outbreak.

In August, at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, America's Michael Phelps won eight gold medals breaking a world record not only with that but setting new world record times with

seven of those medals.

In September, the world saw Wall Street take a crash as politicians scrambled to come up with bailouts to help the economy. The crash sent a ripple effect throughout the world.

In November, history was made when Barack Obama was elected president of the United States—the first black president.

November also was lit up with a meteor that came through the sky landing in Saskatchewan causing many to go on a hunt for the meteor fragments. University of Calgary professor Alan Hildebrand led a group of students and researchers to collect the dozens of fragments. The fragments are now on display at the University of Calgary.

The use of tasers by police was also a hot topic following many civilians who died after being stung by a taser gun.

These are just a few highlights of the year, of course there were many stories that came and went and may still be held close to your heart. What was most memorable for you in 2008?

To those who are planning a large-scale celebration to ring in the new year, please make sure you don't drink and drive.

I wish you all a safe and happy new year and will see you in 2009!

Commentary

It's been a year worth reviewing

DIDSBURY REVIEW

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How can we help you?

Letters to the editor: Letters submitted for publication must be signed and bear the address, phone number and e-mail address of the writer. Please keep your letter to 500 words or less. Letters may be edited for grammar, punctuation, spelling, length and libel. Unsigned letters will NOT be published. Use of pseudonyms will be permitted only under special circumstances, provided the writer's identity is known to The Review.

News and photos: If you have a news item or a photo opportunity you feel may be of interest to readers, please call 335-3301.

Display and classified advertising: Please call 335-3301 and we will be happy to help you place your advertisement. Classified advertising deadline: Friday 12 noon. Display advertising copy deadline: Thursday 5 pm.

In brief

Carstairs home burglarized

Didsbury RCMP is asking the public for assistance after a rural Carstairs home was burglarized last week.

On Dec. 13 between 2 and 8 p.m. an unknown person entered a rural home five kilometres south of Carstairs, just off of Hwy. 580. At the time of the incident there was nobody in the home; the robber then proceeded to take several items from the home and left in a van.

Police received a partial description of the suspect, who is described as being a "smaller native female" and was driving a mini van.

RCMP is asking the public to record the licence plate

number of the vehicle if they see a person matching the description.

Police would also like to urge rural residents to report any suspicious activity, as it is common for thieves to come to rural properties asking for directions or to use the phone/washroom. Police suggest that homeowners not allow unknown individuals to enter their home and if possible recommend recording the licence plate number of any vehicles and report them.

Chip off event Jan. 3

Didsbury and area residents have several local solutions for giving their Christmas trees a new lease on life

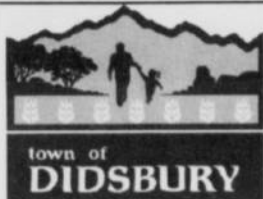
this post-holiday season.

That real tree can be put outside for the birds to enjoy or taken to your local Christmas tree recycle event and chipped into useful mulch.

The Didsbury Lions Club and For Trees Company are holding their annual Christmas tree chip off the first Saturday after New Year's Day, January 3.

Bring an item for the Mountain View Food Bank and watch your tree get recycled into mulch at the Didsbury Public Works building on 19 Street, from noon until 2 p.m.

Hot chocolate and coffee will be available.



www.didsbury.ca

Open: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm — Monday to Friday

Town Administration Office: 2037 - 19 Avenue • Phone: 403-335-3391 • Fax: 403-335-9794

DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS:

Administration	403-335-3391
Public Works: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm	403-335-8343
Planning & Development	403-335-3391
Didsbury Neighborhood Place	403-335-8719
Community Services & FCSS	403-335-8719
Didsbury Landfill	403-335-2005
Memorial Complex & Aquatic Centre	403-335-7369
Rosebud Valley Campground	403-335-8578
Chamber of Commerce Office	403-335-3265
Library	403-335-3142

PUBLIC MEETINGS & NOTICES

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING:

Tuesday January 6, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers

MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Wednesday January 7, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. in Council Chambers

The Town Office will be closed the second Friday of every month from Noon to 1:00 pm (January 9, 2009)

TOWN OF DIDSBURY CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Administration Office, Planning & Development & Public Works

December 23	8:30 a.m. to 12 Noon
December 24	CLOSED
December 25	CLOSED
December 26	CLOSED
December 29-30	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
December 31	8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
January 1	CLOSED
January 2	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Didsbury Neighborhood Place

December 23	8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
December 24	CLOSED
December 25	CLOSED
December 26	CLOSED
December 29-30	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
December 31	8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
January 1	CLOSED
January 2	CLOSED

Didsbury Aquatic Centre & Arena

December 25	CLOSED
December 26	CLOSED
January 1	CLOSED

Check out the full schedule on the website: www.didsbury.ca

The Town of Didsbury Mayor, Council and Staff wish you all a safe and happy Christmas Season.



There will be no charge for Christmas tree disposal at all Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission transfer sites this season. Trees will be accepted at the Didsbury Landfill, Water Valley Transfer Site, Sundre Transfer Site and Olds Transfer Site. For more information, please call the Waste Commission at 403-335-2005.

Rollout Cart Schedule January 2009

Black Bin Green Bin

Sun	M	T	W	Th	Fr	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

The Didsbury Aquatic Center will be closed from January 1, 2009 to February 16, 2009 for regular maintenance. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Leisure Ice Rentals
\$63/ hour
Call 403-335-7364 for details

DIDSBURY NEIGHBORHOOD PLACE

- **RAINBOWS** - Peer support group for children ages 6 - 13 dealing with a life altering crisis such as Death, Divorce and Separation. No cost for this 12 week program beginning January 14.
- **BEGINNER CLOGGING CLASSES** - The Town of Didsbury is offering Beginner Clogging Classes in the Multi-Purpose Room. Wednesdays, January 7 - March 24 from 7 - 8pm. Cost is \$90.00+GST.
- **TODDLER GYM TIME** - Join Town of Didsbury staff for a high-energy hour of activities for your toddlers aged 18 months up to 3 years. This six week program runs Thursday mornings from 9:00 - 10:00am in the MPR from Jan 15 - Feb 19. Cost is \$35.00.

For more info or to register, call DNP at 403-335-8719.

Bylaw Corner - Snow Removal

After a great November, like it or not, the snow and the cold are here. With the snow of course comes the shoveling. I need to remind everyone that the bylaw requires you to shovel the snow on the side walks adjacent to your homes within 24 hours. Those of you with corner lots are responsible for the sidewalks on either side of your lots. Also when shoveling it is important not to shovel the snow out onto the street., place the excess snow on your lawn or boulevard. If you are clearing an area of the street in front of your home you cannot pile the snow anywhere on the street. You must pile it off the street or the sidewalk.

Under the snow removal bylaw there are two offences:

1. Failing to remove snow from the sidewalk adjacent to your lot within 24 hours of the last snowfall.
 2. Piling snow on the sidewalk or street.
- Please dress warm and watch the ice. If you are a senior and are not able to shovel your own snow, please make arrangements to have it removed. Didsbury Seniors Support Services at 403-335-4391 may be able to assist you in finding a suitable solution.

Peace Officer D. Sutherland

ARE YOUR TAXES PAID FOR 2008?

DECEMBER 31ST, 2008

PENALTY WILL BE 18% ON ALL OUTSTANDING BALANCES.
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16.33 acres close to town
2 residences (rented out), main house has 3 bdrms, 2 baths, gas fireplace, sunken living room, oak kitchen, hot tub, single attached garage, dtl. detached garage, subdivision potential.



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This brand new home is ready to move in! 1350 sq ft, upgraded laminate, 3 sided fireplace, jet tub, maple cabinetry, covered deck, huge lot, great price!



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1324 - 21 Avenue
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Affordability! 2 bdrms mobile on rented lot, all new flooring, fresh paint, nicely cleaned up, 2 sheds.



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1313 - 20 Avenue
1 1/4 acre lot in town, 1990 sq ft all on one level, effort yard, 4 season sun room with wood stove, attached single and 24' x 48' detached garage/heated, paved driveway.



'494,500

1533 - 20 Ave.
Lovely 3 bdrms bungalow hardwood floors, newer kitchen, new bathroom, windows, & paint, single garage, 1400 sq ft.



'299,900

2 College Green Ct.
Great 2 bedroom villa style condo, spacious floor plan, main floor laundry, double garage, super location in the complex.



'269,900

"A New Year's Resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other."
Happy New Year Everyone!!

Happy New Year!

Happy New Year!

Happy New Year!

205 Westview Greens
Maintenance free living, 2 bedrooms, if ceilings, crown mouldings, corner gas fireplace, balcony, single garage.



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106 Valarosa Pl.
Brand new home under construction! 3 bdrms, 2 1/2 baths, gas fireplace, corner jet tub, hardwood floors, Quality built by Dreamwood Homes!



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104 Westpoint Pl.
Great floor plan, 4 bdrms, 3 1/2 baths, gas fireplace, kitchen, corner pantry, eating bar, jetted tub, vaulted ceilings, terrific location and nice yard!



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2025 - 20 Avenue
Former Evangelical Church! Over 5000 sq ft above grade, 4 bdrms living quarters, zoned commercial, great location, lots of character.



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10 Westhill Pl.
2 storey half duplex, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, wood burning fireplace, newer kitchen counter-tops, new shingles, newer rear deck, large yard, great location.



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1308 - 23 Avenue
45+ Duplex!
spacious open plan, if ceilings, corner gas fireplace, oak kitchen, main floor laundry, beautiful landscaped, good start on the lot.



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Marion Evelyn Hemming

of Didsbury passed away on December 26, 2008 at the age of 87 years.

Marion was born September 11, 1921 in Sherbrooke, Quebec, the oldest of two daughters born to Wm. & Evelyn Peak. Marion trained as a nurse at the Royal Victoria

Hospital in Montreal early in World War II and was then posted to the Halifax General Hospital. After the war Marion moved to Ontario where she and her husband Eric Hemming raised six children. In Ontario Marion was involved as a Cub Leader with the Boy Scouts, worked with young offenders and worked as a home care nurse for a private company. In 1993 Marion moved to Didsbury where she served on the Family & Community Support Services (FCSS) Board and was the local contact for the Mountain View County Food Bank for several years. In 2003 Marion was named the Town of Didsbury's Outstanding Community Volunteer. Since 2005 Marion was a resident of the Didsbury Nursing Home where she served as the chairperson for the Resident's Council.

She is survived by: Betty (John) Ruxton of Woodstock, Ontario; Cliff (Tanya) Hemming of Mississauga, Ontario; Jeff (Nancy) Hemming of Paisley, Ontario; Ian (Sheila) Hemming of Courtney, B.C.; Grant (Brenda) Hemming of Didsbury, Alberta; Neil Hemming of Cranbrook, B.C.; 17 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren. She was pre-deceased by: husband Eric A. Hemming; Parents Wm. & Evelyn Peak; sister Joan N. Hill; and grandson Eric A. Hemming. A Service of Remembrance was held on January 2, 2009 at the Mountain View Funeral Chapel, Didsbury. Phone 403-335-4773. Internment in Greenwood Cemetery, Owen Sound, Ontario.

130. Coming Events

NEW YEARS EVE Family Fun 7:00-9:00pm. Free swimming and skating at Didsbury Memorial Complex. All are welcome! Call 403-556-4042 for info. Sponsored by Word of Life Church.

5110. Houses For Rent

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100. Obituaries

MERCER - WENDELL

June 7, 1919 -

December 22, 2008

The family sadly announces the passing of Wendell Mercer on December 22, 2008. Beloved husband of Irene. Dear father of daughters Wendy (Dennis) Morton and Amy (Tammy) Mercer. He will be sadly missed by 6 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Wendell was pre-deceased by his son Nelson in 1991. He is survived by his sister Ivy (Bob) Fletcher of Lacombe and numerous nieces and nephews. Thanks to Dr. Nel and the staff at the Olds Long Term Care Centre for their excellent care and compassion. In Wendell's honor a private family service was held Sunday, December 28, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. at Mountain View Funeral Chapel, Didsbury. Arrangements entrusted to Mountain View Funeral Chapel, Didsbury. Proudly serving our community for over 45 years, phone 403-335-4773.

Rutherford, Alvin Charles

1927 - 2008

It is with deep sadness that the family of Alvin Charles Rutherford announces his passing on December 23, 2008. Alvin was born to Pearl and Lowell Rutherford in Drumheller on June 18, 1927. The family homesteaded in Munsen, then moved to Woods Lake and finally settled on a farm outside of Elnora. After high school Alvin began work with Crown Lumber in Elnora and in 1949 married Edna Holland. From Elnora he moved from Beiseker to Three Hills to Didsbury where he retired. He loved working with people, sharing their stories and made many friends in those communities. Alvin was a devoted son, brother, husband, father and grandfather. He took great pride in his children's accomplishments and became a devoted and doting grandpa closely following each grandchild's achievements. Alvin was a passionate football, hockey, curling, and baseball fan. He loved to watch his boys play hockey and ball and travelled many a winter night to watch the Flames. The truck and camper travelled to all the ball fields in the area as he rooted for the Didsbury Jets. In later years when grandchildren took up the sport, he also became a tennis fan. Alvin committed many volunteer hours in each community that he lived in. He undertook any task where he saw a need and did whatever needed to be done whether it was coaching a team, building a campground, putting up tennis nets, helping with the Elks bingo, or fixing furniture for the Sunday school. Alvin was a true son of the Prairies. He loved the wide open sky and the land. Every year he marvelled at the crops and the renewal of the land. He was an avid gardener and tended his little corner of the prairie with the same love and care that he showed his family. After retirement he and Edna enjoyed several trips until Edna's health became restrictive. With great devotion he cared for Edna even after she went into extended care. Our family has been graced with his love and guided by his principles. He will remain in our hearts and memory forever. Alvin is survived by his wife Edna, his daughter Joan (Glenn) Hill, his sons Ken Rutherford, Rod (Sue) Rutherford, Doug (Kim) Rutherford, grandchildren Erin (Andy) Maj, Shannon (Mike) Oliver, Scott Rutherford, Leanne Rutherford, Mark Rutherford, Taylor Rutherford, Josh Rutherford, and Morgan Rutherford and great-grandchildren Annika and Lucas Maj and Max Oliver. He was pre-deceased by his parents Pearl and Lowell, sisters Vivian Collins and Eva Collins, brothers Jay Rutherford and Bill Rutherford, and daughter-in-law Donna Rutherford. The family invites friends and family to share in their Celebration of Alvin's life on Tuesday, December 30 at 11:00 a.m. at the Knox United Church in Didsbury. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Rosebud Health Foundation, PO Box 962, Didsbury AB T0M 0W0. Arrangements entrusted to Mountain View Funeral Chapel, Didsbury, Phone 403-335-4773.



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Beautiful design, 3 bedroom duplex, main floor laundry, 1414 sq.ft. with full ensuite.



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Completely refinished and remodelled 4 bdrm, 2 bathroom family bungalow in quiet Carstairs. 24' x 24' dbl detached garage plus RV parking.



NEW LISTING
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